

I am an amateur radio operator (W1GD) and I am active on all the HF bands. I live in a densely populated area and I am located less than 2 miles from the Atlantic coast. I am also active in emergency preparedness activities and I belong to Monmouth County (NJ) RACES. During the late summer and early fall, we are particularly concerned about a hurricane hitting this area. Based on past experience, if a hurricane hit, we would be expected to pass information using amateur radio HF frequencies. I am also the contact for the SHARES station at my AT&T work location (WPEH 727). We have participated in numerous exercises (particularly after 9/11) which take place above 5.2 MHz and 14.3 MHz.

I have observed the effects that BPL trials have on communications on the amateur HF bands and I believe that the current BPL proposal would jeopardize both amateur and non-amateur ability to effectively communicate during natural or other disasters.

I also believe that BPL will limit the public's ability to receive AM broadcast signals. In many parts of the US, the AM broadcast stations remain an important source of timely weather information and other other news.